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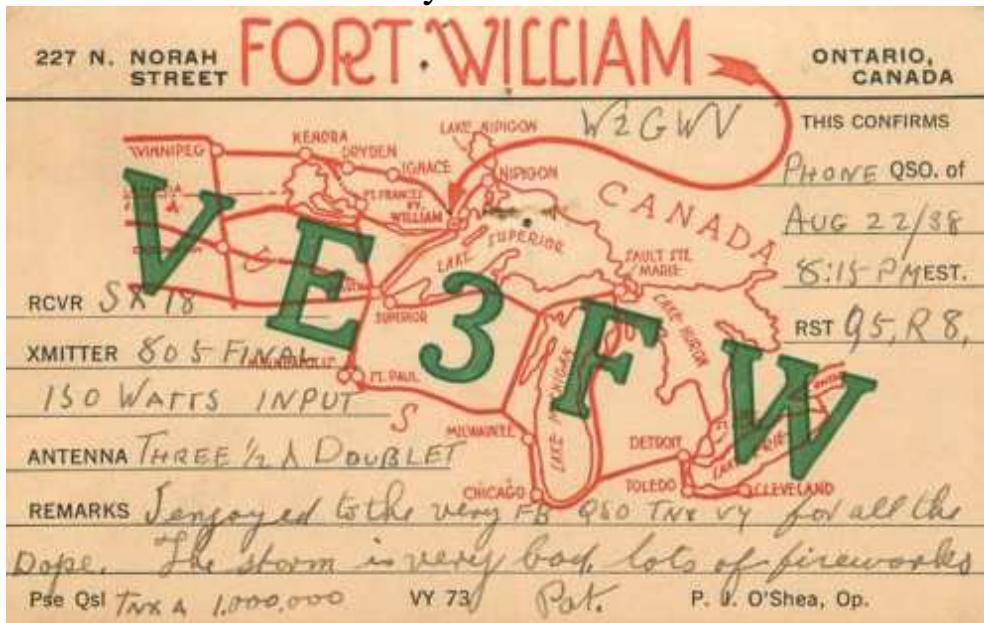


Volume 77

Movember 2011

Issue 9

Why VE3FW?



Courtesy of Gary Spence VE3GK

VE3FW, the call sign for the LARC, was originally the call sign of the first president of the LARC, Pat O'Shea. Born in Athlone, Ireland in 1881, he served in the Boer War and was a veteran at the age of 19. Here was the start of a life-long hobby of Communications. Pat served as a Signaller at this early date. In 1908 he emigrated to the Dominion and to Fort William in 1914. He was engaged in the newspaper business, enjoying a long career as a press foreman with various Canadian newspapers, with the majority of services with the Fort William Times-Journal.

However, we have to feel, perhaps selfishly, that Pat's greatest contribution to Canadiana was via his hobby—Ham Radio. VE3FW first appeared on the scene in 1925 and was a going concern since. For about a year and a half, Pat was the Acting Radio Inspector for this area, until a full time Inspector (A. C. Powley) was assigned in 1931.

On April 14, (I believe that should read 17, Jim VE3UA) 1934, Pat was Chairman at the initial meeting of the Canadian Lakehead Wireless Experimenters and was elected President at that same meeting. He served as president until 1936, being succeeded by John Fieldhouse - VE3FQ.

Even the hostilities of 1939-45 did not curtail his radio activities. Pat was an instructor in Morse code and radio operating for the Armed Forces and was one of the few to keep his fist in during the war. The first meeting of the Club after the War was held on November 21, 1945 and VE3FW was in attendance as usual, and one of the first things Pat always did was to volunteer to teach code to beginners. On November 21, 1951, VE3FW was awarded Life Membership in the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club, with an engraved pin and later a certificate. In 1970, the Radio Society of Ontario honoured Pat with the only Honorary Life Membership in that organization. Duty called again in September 1954 when he was elected to the Vice Presidency and (still later) from 1956 to '58 was again President (at the age of 75 years). He was also the Communications Officer with the Civil Defence Organization until 1960. Always the perfect Irish gentleman, P. J. O'Shea was well known from coast to coast for his on-the-air manners and was famed for his flair for constantly changing rigs every few years. At one time or another he had

LARC SENATE

Keith Fiske VE3JQ
Pat Doherty VE3PD
Dave Kimpton VE3AVS
Laurie Bridgett VE3BCD
Terry Stewardson VA3LU
Ed Baumann VE3SNW

LARC EXECUTIVE

President

Randy Gottfred VA3OJ

Vice-President

Bob Hansen VE3RVA

Secretary

Karl Hamilton VE3RRP

Treasurer

Joe Coghlan VE3TBX

Directors

Mark Vaillant VA3MVR

Paul Curtin VA3PDC

Robert Mazur VA3ROM

Past President

Bill Unger VE3XT

LARC Emergency Coordinator

Brad Harris VE3MXJ

ARES District Emergency

Coordinator

VE3FAL Fred Lesnick 577-0789

CANWARN

VA3JMS John 767-3631

VE3MXJ Brad 767-0628

Public Service Events

VA3JMS John 767-3631

Accredited Examiner

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lesnick@tbaytel.net

ABOUT US

The Lakehead Amateur Radio Club (LARC) is an incorporated not for profit group of amateur radio operators in the Thunder Bay area that meet for self education, community service and fellowship. Our meetings are the second Thursday of the month at room 191 McIntyre Building, Confederation College, 7:30 PM. Our postal address is 1100C Memorial Ave. Suite 184, Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 4A3. This newsletter is published monthly except for July and August by Ed Baumann VE3SNW and questions and submissions may be emailed to ve3snw@shaw.ca

VE3FW Continued

tried most manufacturers' products, having given up home-brew a few years back. VE3FW was active from a retirement home in Dundas, active on 40, 80 and sometimes 20 Metres SSB.

Today, there are many hams, and indeed professional electronics people who owe their beginnings to that little bit of Ireland who has left us, but left behind a great legacy in the history of Canadian Amateur Radio. Pat O'Shea - VE3FW passed away February 18, 1972.

The April 1973 High-Q reports that, effective February 18, 1973, the use of Club call VE3ZCD was discontinued in favour of VE3FW in memory of our first President, Pat O'Shea.

Reprinted from the obituary of Pat O'Shea

Are you a history buff? The club's history is available on our website at www.larclub.net



**Find us on
Facebook**

LARC OPEN ACCESS REPEATERS

VE3YQT(Mount Baldy)147.060 (-600) Phone Patch

VE3TBR (St. Joseph's) **146.820 pl 107.2**

442.075 (+5 MHz)pl 100

144.390 APRS

VE3UPP Upsala **145.470 (-600)**

November HI-Q Journal of the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club 2011

Minutes for the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club

October 13, 2011

President Randy Gottfred VA3OJ presiding.

Meeting Called to order at 7:30 P.M.

Guest speaker: Tom Haavisco VE3CX gave a presentation on contesting covering station requirements myths and general FAQ.

Treasurer's Report: Terry Stewardson VA3LU moved to accept the report as printed in the September Hi-Q. Seconded by George Dow VE3DOW. Passed unanimously.

Meeting minutes: Brad Harris VE3MXJ moved to accept the meeting minutes as printed in the September Hi-Q. Seconded by George Dow VE3DOW. Passed unanimously.

Public service: A reminder was made that all public service events need to be reported to John Sacek VA3JMS so that they can be reported to RAC.

Past Events:

Caribou Bike Ride Sunday September 11.

Thunder Bay Marathon Sunday September 18.

During this event the need for a standardised reporting system was realised.

CIBC Run for the Cure Sunday October 2.

Coming events:

Rotary Club Santa Claus Parade November 19th.

Salvation Army Santa Shuffle December 3.

Canwarn: John Secak VA3JMS was unable to attend however an email was sent with the following: September 12th, 2011. Warning issued at 5pm. 6 check in's, call made to Toronto to update reports, warning ended at 6:50pm

Repeater: Terry Stewardson VA3LU reports that there will be a trip made to Mt. Baldy for the annual general maintenance. He also reports that there was a short power outage and that there are some reports of intermod. at the repeater site. VE3TBR has been linked VHF-UHF this should help rectify command issues with the IRLP. George Dow VE3DOW and Karl Hamilton VE3RRP report good propagation on the UHF repeater.

Upsala: Building has yet to be replaced.

IRLP: There are talks that a second IRLP node that would be used to keep a constant connection to the

Ontario public service reflector. Research on the subject is underway.

ARES: Brad Harris VE3MXJ reports that the Simulated Emergency Test is taking place Saturday October 15th, 2011. North America wide (ARRL, RAC NTS, and ARES) Locally 1000 – 1400 then 1800 - 2100. All ARES members are asked to participate. Net control will be asking stations availability and operating status. Stations are also asked to participate in the regular Tuesday night net at 1930 on VE3YQT.

Trailer report: Bob Hansen VE3RVA reports that a new sponsor will be required. A letter to Chartwell will be sent inquiring about the possibility as a corporate sponsor. The trailer will be stored at his QTH for the winter after the Santa Clause. Parade. The propane tank will be filled. It has been reported that there are mic problems with the IC-8000. Terry Stewardson VA3LU noted that Icom is known to have PTT issues and that there is a replacement part available. The possibility of replacing the mic was also discussed.

Hymers 100th anniversary: The special events Callsign will be paid for by the fair. The possibility of a budget for operating costs for participants. A motion was made to have the executive committee decide on the budget. The motion was made by Ed Baumann VE3SNW and seconded by George Dow VE3DOW. The motion was removed.

RAC Winter contest: The possibility of the club getting the VE3RAC Callsign for the contest was mentioned.

Atikokan Amateur Radio Club: Warren Paulson has requested the expertise of club members in his endeavor to launch a Balloon. Details to come.

New Business:

The annual club supper is going to be held at Chicago Joes on _____

Motion to adjourn made by Bob Hansen VE3RVA and seconded by Harvey Larabee VA3LHA

Meeting adjourned at 2103

Field Services Review Communiqué

As announced in Radio Amateurs of Canada Bulletin 2011-021E, a RAC Ontario Section Restructuring Commission was appointed by the Vice President for Field Services with the objective of “improving representation to our members and to ensure that the task of our Section Managers is realistic in terms of member access and service.” The Commission was tasked to “determine the most effective number of Section Managers and other positions as well as any further such regional divisions which may be required.” The difficulties of effectively managing such a large geographical area are well known and the need for a greater number of sections has been discussed at various levels for some years. The mandate given the Commission outlined the requirement to seek the concurrence of the current Section Manager and to give the draft report the widest possible circulation so that clubs and groups may comment prior to its submission to VPFS.

Under the chairmanship of Bill Unger VE3XT (Ontario Director North), the Commission commenced its proceedings on August 7, 2011 and Ontario Section Manager Al Boyd VE3AJB is presently reviewing the draft proposal. The other members of the Commission are Jeff Stewart VA3WXM (Ontario Director South), Dave Hayes VE3JX (Algoma ARC), Vic Henderson VE3FOX (Peel ARC) and Pat Barrett VE3RNH (Barrie ARC). Dave, Vic and Pat are active participants in the ARES. Also included in the deliberations was Ian Snow, VA3QT, special advisor to the Vice President of Field Services and Doug Mercer, VO1DM Vice President of Field Services for RAC.

Once Al comments on the proposal it will be distributed to as many Ontario Amateurs as possible for comment and then given to the Radio Amateurs of Canada Board of Directors for approval.

The entire Task Force would like to thank Alan Boyd, VE3AJB who is the serving Section Manager and we also hope he will continue to play a significant role if the recommendations are accepted.

The task force recognized that Section Managers are elected by the membership to manage a range of RAC programs. They report on Section operations through the Vice President Field Services, who is accountable to the President for the overall operation of the Field Organization, but like the Regional Director, the Section Manager holds overall responsibility within their Section. The Commission also realized that Ontario is a large province, that Field Services may have different responsibilities based on where in the Province they are located, and that it has proven difficult for one person to coordinate all programs across the province. The need to retain the existing relationship between ARES Districts and EMO Sectors should continue to be respected. Finally, the task force recognizes that VPFS has instituted an advisory Council composed of the Section Managers to coordinate Field Organization activities nationally.

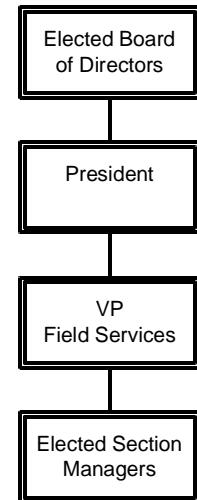


Figure 1 National Organization

Figure 2 is the provincial model that the Commission proposes to recommend. The number of Sections would be increased from the existing one to four in total. Shown are the three Sections where the proposed Districts correspond to the EMO Sectors, and, in the Greater Toronto Area, the Districts remain based on municipal boundaries. The Toronto District ARES Coordinator would retain responsibility for the operation of the ARES station within the Provincial EOC.

Following the example set by the VPFS Council, the Commission recommends that the four Ontario SM's would meet in the form of an Ontario Council to coordinate activities. Selecting from amongst them a Chairman, the Council would be responsible for the Field Organization administrative functions that sensibly belong at the provincial level. In particular, the Ontario Council would appoint appropriately qualified Amateurs to represent the Council to provincial government authorities, non-government organizations (NGO) and external agencies within the authority vested in the Field Organization.

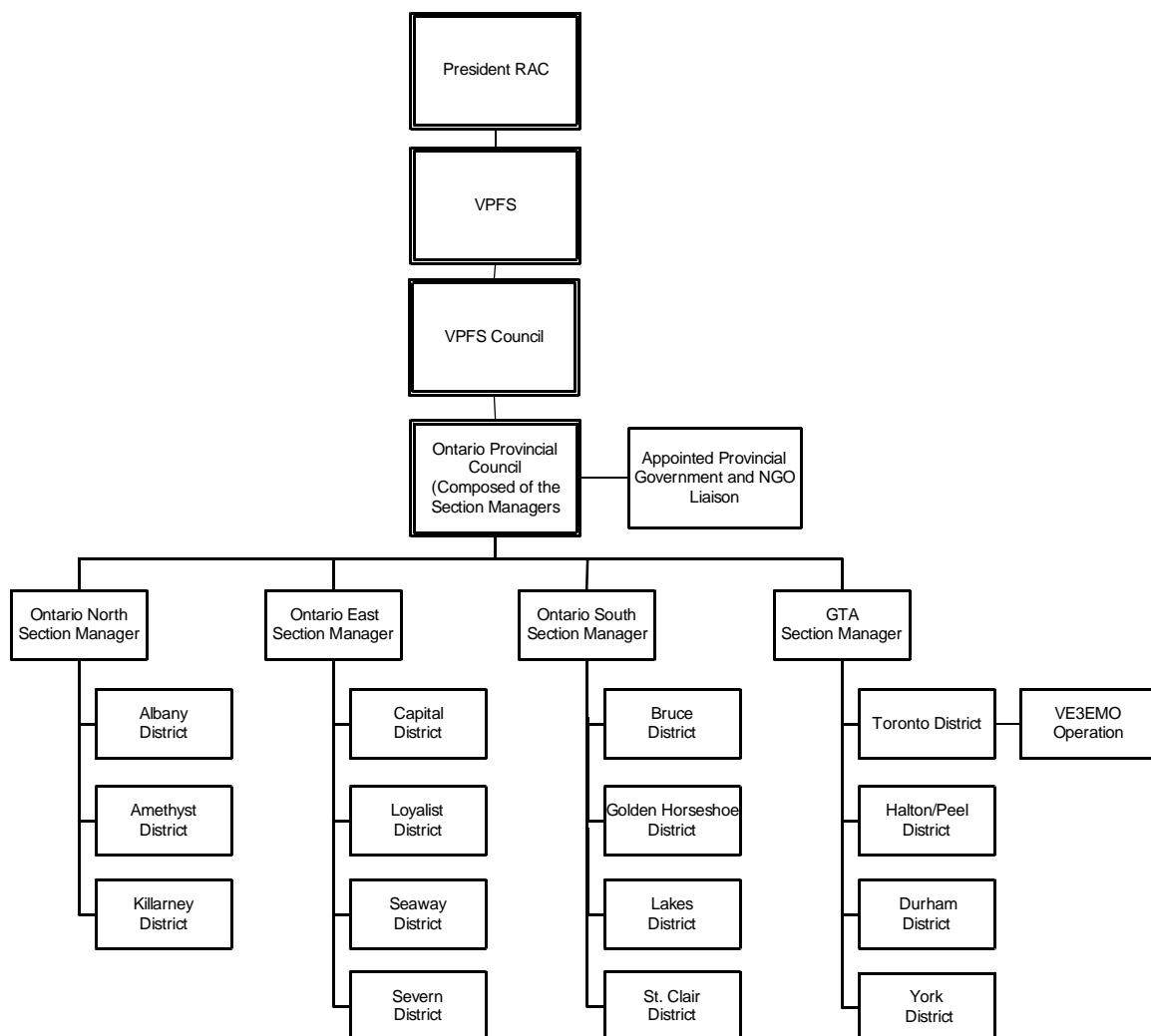


Figure 2 Proposed Ontario Section Model

It is proposed that initially the new SM's will be appointed by VPFS from qualified persons recommended by the membership. The SM terms would be staggered so that two are elected each odd year and the other two in even years. (Each SM term of office is two years.)

The entire committee hopes that Amateurs from across Ontario will be willing to volunteer their time and expertise to ensure the Ontario Field Services is strong and vibrant.

While we want to hear from Ontario clubs in particular, all individual members are also invited to comment before 27 November, 2011. Please send responses to:

restructont@gmail.com.

Bill Unger VE3XT
Chair, ~~Ontario Restructuring Commission~~

North East Ontario Regional Directors Report for November, 2011



The monthly meeting of the Regional Directors was held on October 28, 2011. In reviewing the financial reports presented to the board we are actually operating in the black again. Not by a large margin, but we are clawing our way to fiscal stability. The other bit of good news we heard was that our membership is also stable now. We were losing more members than were signing up and that has also changed. Membership is steady and one of the points I want to focus on in 2012 is to increase regular membership and those Amateurs who can step up to be Maple Leaf Members. Amateurs all across Canada are realising it's important to support their national organization.

I would also like to welcome Frank Greene the new Office Administer. Frank brings a wealth of business experience and hope you get a chance to say hello to him soon.

There are some changes to RAC Insurance, please see the last RAC Report or the RAC Web page for more info.

The first communiqué of the Ontario Ares Restructuring Committee has been presented to the Amateurs of Ontario. You can see the full statement at the RAC web site and I encourage you to read it and comment. We have made suggestions but it's your Section and if you don't speak up we won't know what you are thinking.

Also in October , Steve VE3STV our former HLC and Jeff, VA3WXM Southern Ontario Director and myself met with the MTO's ADM and his Director for Policy in Toronto. The entire report is on the RAC web page and I encourage you to read it all. We presented a reasoned and logical report and then answered the questions they had. MTO have committed to contact us early in 2012 with their comments and follow up. Here is the link for both of the documents: <http://www.rac.ca/>

We are still in need of a Treasurer as Margret is pursuing her studies and schooling does not leave her with a lot of time for RAC. I have to say thanks to Margret as she has done a WONDERFUL job in that position and thanks to her, Chris and now Frank our books are in good shape. If you have some financial experience and are proficient in Quick Books would you consider helping out RAC? If you're interested contact me at the email below.

When talking to, Don VE3HOL in Timmins he told me that their club was chosen by ICOM to receive a new DStar repeater and they are busy setting it up. Congratulations to them. Could we see an article and pictures in the RAC Report some time ahead?

Finally this is a bit of a heads up that the Board is thinking of publishing TCA as an emagazine early next year. We feel Amateurs are a tech savvy group and will adapt to this new format. Tell me what you think.

If you have any questions or concerns please email me at ve3xt@rac.ca.

Bill VE3XT
North East Ontario
Regional Director

Movember HI-Q Journal of the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club 2011

RAC Distracted Driving Committee meets with MTO Officials

On October 20th the same day that the Honourable Bob Chiarelli was sworn in as the new Minister of Transportation, Steve Pengelly, VE3STV former RAC HLC, Jeff Stewart, VA3WXM Southern Ontario Director and Bill Unger, VE3XT North East Ontario Director met with the Assistant Deputy Minister – Road User Safety Division and the Director – Safety Policy and Education Branch.

One of the questions we were asked is why Amateurs believe we deserve an exemption to operate while mobile. We explained that in order to be proficient in the use of our radio systems including mobiles and repeaters, in order to ensure they are always in working order and in order to ensure we know where they work best and where they don't work well at all, we must continually test them. This is done by daily usage and by providing community service to many diverse groups across the Province. They were told that many communities rely on the Amateur Radio Operators in their areas as part of their emergency preparedness plans. They were also advised that Amateurs have installed, at no expense to the taxpayer, a communications infrastructure that provides a backup to existing telecommunications systems in which authorities can have confidence.

We demonstrated a 2 Metre radio to them and illustrated the difference between Simplex using PTT and Duplex with cell phones. We emphasized that to use our radios and communicate we did not have to remove our eyes from the road.

It was also brought to their attention that we are a relatively small group of private individuals and for us to continue our public service while having to comply with the new legislation, could be a financial hardship on some Amateurs.

The Ministry Officials raised several other questions as to why we cannot comply with the legislation. They were answered with solid technical and operational explanations as to the difficulties we would encounter in order to do this.

A reasoned set of arguments was presented to allay their concerns regarding safety and to explain why Amateurs should be treated differently than others and exempted on a permanent basis.

Ontario has committed to consult with RAC early in the New Year on this matter so a permanent solution can be found prior to January 2013.

Bill Unger VE3XT

Chair

Movember HI-Q Journal of the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club 2011

**ONTARIO PROVINCE-WIDE
SIMULATED EMERGENCY TEST
FOR
SATURDAY OCTOBER 15, 2011**

As of 10:00am the S.E.T. had begun. VE3MXJ Brad, VA3TSA Merv, VE3RRP Karl, and VE3VAI Lori, were at VE3ONN station, which for the purpose of this excersie would be the E.O.C.

The first order of business was to check in with the E.M.O. in Toronto, ON.

HF did not fair very will so we went to the I.R.L.P. that too was hit and miss, but what seem to work best were the digital modes.

Karl VE3RRP started up a local net on ve3yqt repeater, at the same time. He had about 12 check inn's, with the stations telling him there availability for the S.E.T.

VE3RVA Bob, and VA3ROM Robert, were at VE3SAO station which is located at the 55 plus seniors rec. center, and they were up and running, with all modes avaible.

For the purpose of ARES we have three locations around the city of Thunder Bay that have 2m stations ready to go. The first one is at the North Central Fire Hall on Water St.; this location by the way is the E.O.C. for the City of Thunder Bay, (this not being a City of Thunder Bay exercise, is why we made VE3ONN at the Salvation Army on Cumberland St. the E.O.C.)

The other locations are at the Thunder Bay Regional Hospital, and the Thunder Bay Red Cross. Both these stations were activated and messages were passed through out the S.E.T.

At 14:00 hours we shut down the stations & the first half of the S.E.T. was over. At 19:00 we started back up, this time at VE3ONN was Lori VE3VAI, Joe VE3TBX and myself. Conditions improved a little and we did mange to make contact on 20m, VE3EMO could not hear us but the NTS net was able to relay. Messages were again passed on the I.R.L.P. with some trouble, but once again the digital mode was the hero. 20:00hours was the time this year's S.E.T. was over.

At this time I would like to thank those stations that came and helped out, and thanks to those that checked into the local nets.

Thanks again to one and all, and I look forward to next years S.E.T.

Brad VE3MXJ CEC
EC for the Thunder Bay District A.R.E.S. Group

Movember HI-Q Journal of the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club 2011

FCC Cites 20 Online Vendors for Marketing Jamming Devices (10/3/11)

The FCC issued a citation and order to 20 online vendors for marketing a total of 215 uniquely described models of cell, GPS and other signal jamming devices in violation of the Communications Act and the commission's rules.

"Signal jamming devices pose significant risks to public safety and potentially compromise other radio communications services," the FCC citation said. "Each online vendor must take immediate steps to cease marketing signal jamming devices to consumers in the United States and its territories and to avoid any recurrence of this misconduct. This may include actions such as removing the illegal signal jamming devices from online display, expressly excluding consumers in the United States and its territories as potential customers and declining to sell signal jamming devices or complete any sales transaction to consumers in the United States and its territories."

All vendors must report within 30 calendar days after the release date of the citation on the specific actions taken to correct the violations and provide information concerning their signal jamming device suppliers, distributor channels and sales.

Future violations may subject the vendors to substantial monetary penalties, seizures of equipment and criminal sanctions, the citation said.

The 20 online vendors cited are:

Bling Wholesalers -Brilliant Store - Consumer Security Products - Espow International - Jabiru Bamboo - Junker Signal Solutions - Molary Alexent - NOVA Retail Ent. - Papatek - PJS Gifts - SAFI Service Secret Service Silver Valley Tech Simply Surveillance Sleuthtek, Mill Creek Sunvalleytek International The Signal Jammer Tna International Electronics - World Mall Electronics - Yapper Zapper

Thanks to RadioResource Media Group (Mission Critical)

Fred VE3FAL

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=61nHlsMtEoM>

JAMES ROSS VE4AJR SK

JAMES ROSS (VE4AJR) Peacefully, on October 17, 2011 Jim passed away at the Riverview Health Centre at the age of 90. Our condolences to James' family and friends.

FOR SALE

2- HTX 202 Radio Shack handheld radios. Extra battery packs, carry cases, one hi-gain antenna, chargers. In original boxes, with manuals. Price \$60.00 each.

Mike VE3ZG 767-1714 nawrocki@shaw.ca

----- Digital NBEMS Net Listings -----

Note: All frequencies listed are USB and are dial frequencies

1) SATERN NBEMS Net Schedule

Monday and Wednesday

8PM ET- 14.065

9PM ET- 7.065

10PM ET- 3.5835

1000Hz waterfall center-Olivia 8/500

2) Southern Territory SATERN Net

Saturday

12PM CT- 14.065

1000Hz waterfall center-Olivia 8/500

3) New York SATERN Net

Saturday

10AM ET- 7.063

1000Hz waterfall center-Olivia 8/500

4) Pennsylvania PaNBEMS Directed Net

Sunday

10AM ET- 3.5853

11AM ET- 7.073

1000Hz waterfall center-Olivia 8/500

Bulletins will also be sent using MT63-1K long (64 bit)

I have given you a list of just a few of the NETS we are currently actively working and experimenting with using FLDIGI and other modes to pass digital traffic and messages.

If you have FLDIGI you can monitor these frequencies and watch all the traffic and play along. This weekend with the storms along the Eastern Seaboard it was interesting to pass weather reports from NOAA via FLMSG and have them received on the other and forwarded along even further using this software.

It can be found at : <http://www.w1hkj.com/Fldigi.html>

All the additional add ons are also available on the page.

Cheers

Fred VE3FAL

LARC October Treasurers Report

Balance October 03 2011	\$258.44
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Income

Oct 03 Transfer from trailer account	\$320.59
Oct 14 Dues & 50/50	\$486.50
Oct 24 Return on NSF charges	\$170.00
Total Income	\$977.09

Expenses

Oct 03 Thunder Bay Telephone Cell phone	\$0.57
Oct 06 Insurance	\$494.80
Oct 06 Hymers Fair expenses	\$42.01
Oct 06 Field Day expenses	\$123.70
Oc t 31 Bank Charges	\$2.27
Total Expenses	\$663.35

Balance on hand October 31 2011	\$572.18
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Trailer Account

Previous Balance	\$837.26
Income	
Oct 31 Interest	\$0.05
Expenses	
Oct 03 Transfer to main account	\$320.59
Balance in Trailer Account	\$516.72

Term Account

Balance October 01 2011	\$3,010.37
Interest	\$1.24
Balance October 31 2011	\$3,011.61

Paul Curtin VA3PDC
Treasurer

November 2011

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10 LARC Club Meeting	11 Remembrance Day	12	13
						
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				